

REMARKS

As indicated above, by this Preliminary Amendment Applicants have corrected Figures 2, 4, 7, and 10 and have made corresponding correction to the Specification, including the Abstract. The title also has been changed to be more closely aligned with the subject matter of the claims.

Claims 1-4 have been cancelled without prejudice, and new claims 5-8 are presented for consideration on the merits.

Claim 5 corresponds to cancelled claim 1 incorporating the contents of cancelled claim 3, and in addition includes zero dispersion wavelength characteristics in a range from 1300 nm to 1324 nm conforming the ITU-T recommendations G.652 (see, specification page 12), and the conditions on bending loss and mode field diameter. Claim 6 corresponds to cancelled claim 2, and reflects one of the corrections made to the Drawings and Specification. Claim 7 generally corresponds to cancelled claim 4, but adds the lower limit of the relative index difference (see, Fig. 8), the theoretical cutoff wavelength characteristics, the bending loss and the effective cross-sectional area characteristics.

Applicant respectfully submits that this Preliminary Amendment does not introduce new matter, and entry thereof is respectfully requested.

DATED this 5th day of February 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



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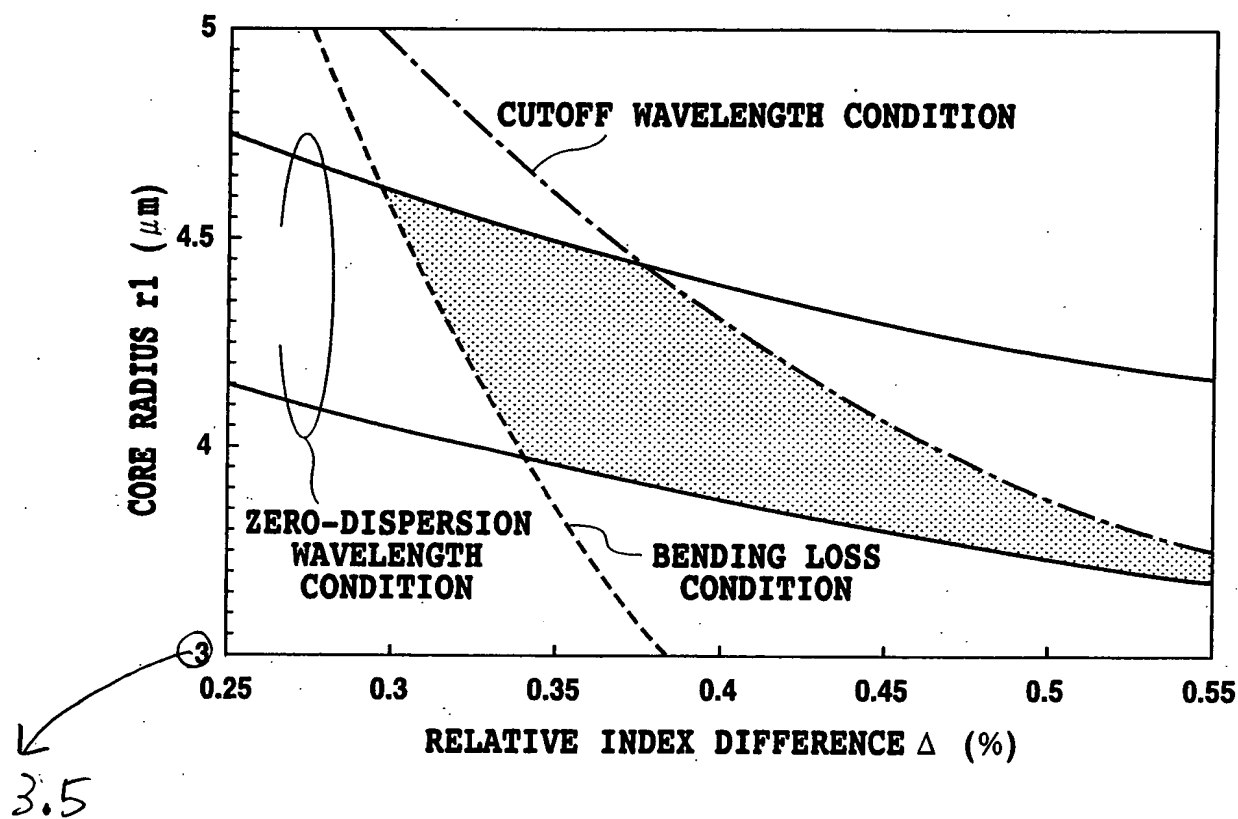
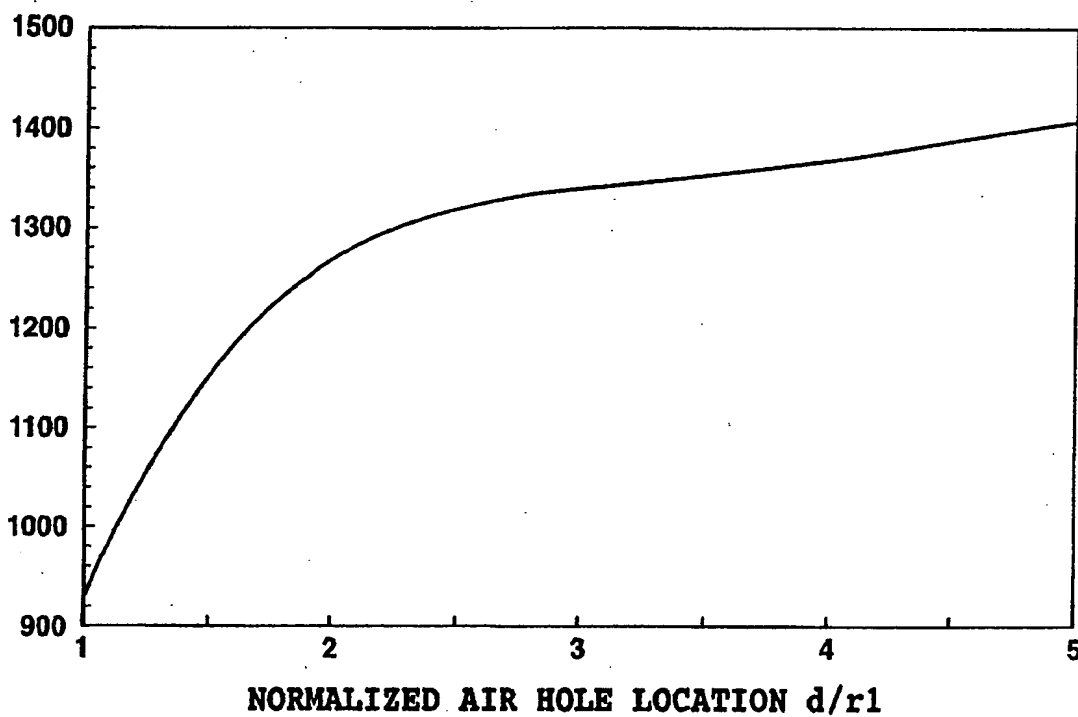


FIG.2
PRIOR ART

THEORETICAL CUTOFF WAVELENGTH IN FUNDAMENTAL LP₁₁ MODE (nm)



NUMBER OF AIR
HOLES : EIGHT
 $r_2 = 0.4 \times r_1$
 $r_1 = 4.5 \mu\text{m}$
 $\Delta = 0.32 \%$

FIG.4

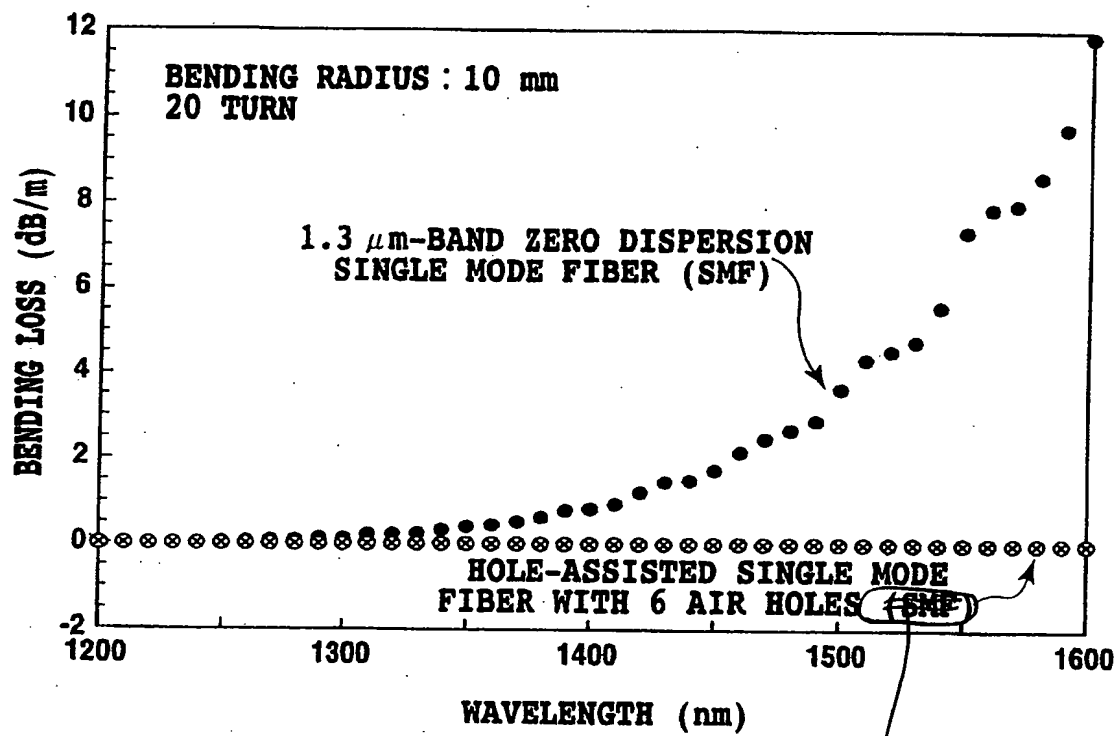


FIG.7

delete
(SMF)



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Annotated Sheet Showing Changes
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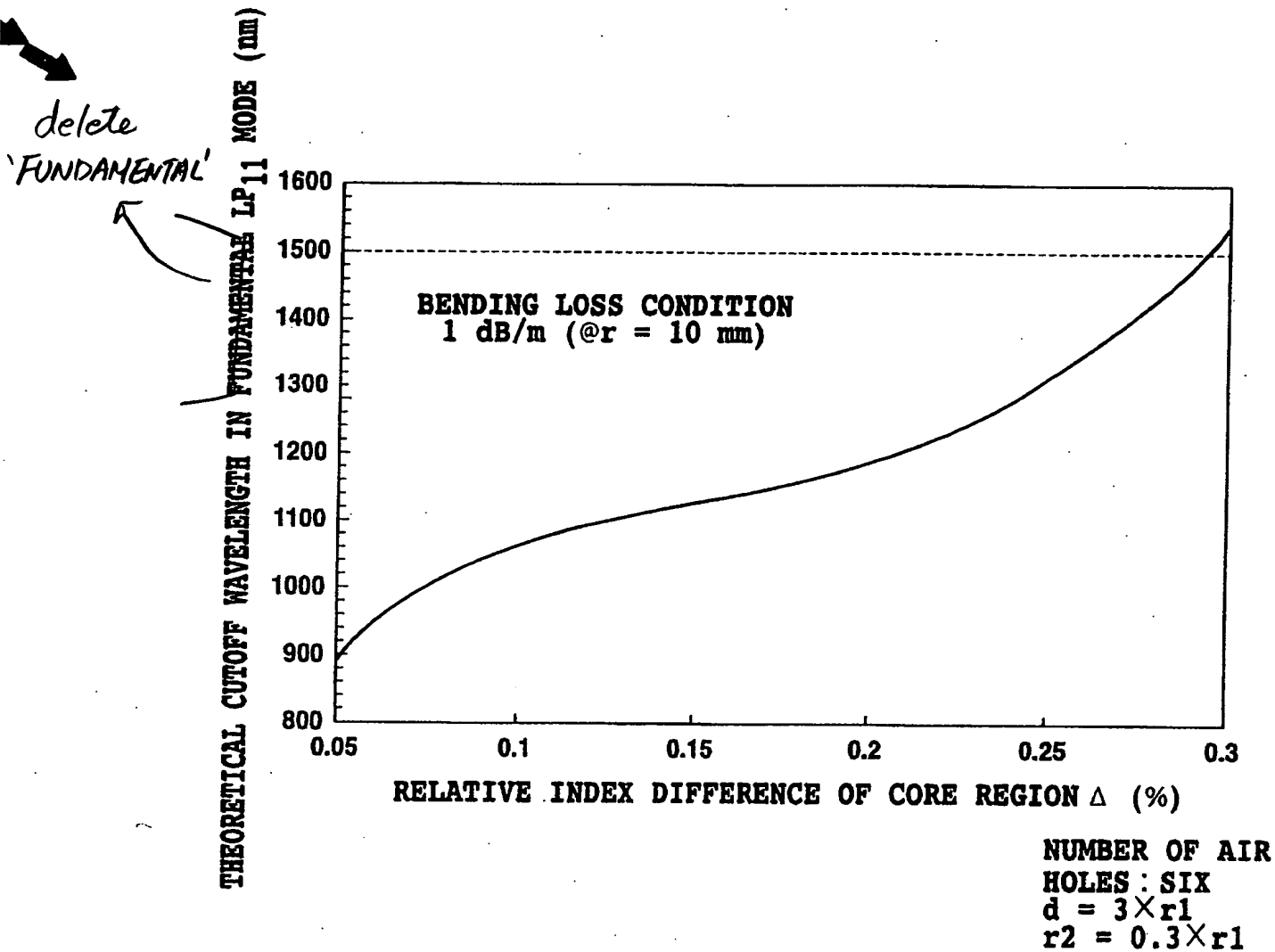


FIG.10